

Application No. Not Yet Assigned  
 Paper Dated July 24, 2006  
 In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of N/A  
 Attorney Docket No. 1217-062198

**10/587327**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : Not Yet Assigned  
 Applicants : **Hiroyuki FUKUYAMA et al.**  
 Filed : Concurrently Herewith  
 Title : **NON-OXIDE CERAMIC HAVING OXIDE LAYER  
 ON THE SURFACE THEREOF, METHOD FOR  
 PRODUCTION THEREOF AND USE THEREOF**  
 International Application No. : PCT/JP2005/000791  
 International Filing Date : 21 January 2005  
 Priority Date(s) Claimed : 23 January 2004, 03 February 2004, 09 February 2004,  
 07 July 2004

**MAIL STOP PCT**  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P. O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 9 this paper.

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 12 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 13 of this paper.